



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

PLATANACEÆ.

PLATANUS, L.—*P. occidentalis*, L. ; common ; N. Y. ; Central Park, *R. & P.*

JUGLANDACEÆ.

JUGLANS, L.—*J. cinerea*, L. ; rather common ; in woods, Manhattanville, *Torr. Cat.* ; Central Park, *R. & P.*—*J. nigra*, L. ; not uncommon ; woods, *Torr. Cat.* ; native, Walnut Ridge, Passaic Co., N. J., also Sussex Co., *Austin* ; Central Park, *R. & P.* ; Glen Cove, *Coles.*—*J. hybrida*, LeConte ; vide *Torr. Cat.* and *State Flora*. Some of our Flushing friends should look into the history of the seedlings said to have been raised by Mr. Prince.

24. *Danthonia*, DC.—*D. Alleni*, n. sp.—Culm sparingly branched, stout, erect, about three feet high, triangular and compressed (at least below in the dried state), and with the narrow side concave. Leaves moderately long, flat, about two lines wide ; midnerve conspicuous beneath but not visible on the upper side ; sheaths naked and polished, the lower ones large and conspicuously imbricated ; ligule with numerous long and delicate fringes. (Terminal) panicle decomposed, subsecund, rather open, its branches longish and (each one) subtended by a subulate bract, which is about as long as the glumes. Glumes about reaching to the bristles of the uppermost flowers of the spikelets. Spikelets about 15 in number, about 10-flowered, compact, terete, 6-7 lines long. Lower (outer) palea clothed with rather numerous long, silky hairs, and with a distinct tuft of the same at the base, about half as long as its own awn, distinctly about 7-nerved ; awn very slender, setaceous, nearly erect, not twisted except at the base, where it is pale in color, very minutely and closely scabrous, and somewhat bent sideways ; (lateral) teeth long-awned. Lateral panicles (only a single one in the specimen before me) * smaller and partly included.

This species is readily distinguished from its congeners in this country: by its rather tall and stout, somewhat branched culm ; naked, flat, rather broad leaves of moderate length, with naked and polished sheaths ; larger, open panicle, with the branches bracted at the base ; spikelets longer than the glumes ; etc.

Detected by Dr. Allen, at Rockaway, L. I.

D. compressa, Austin.—[Noticing a disposition among botanists to ignore this species, I was led recently to re-examine it and to compare it with our other species. I find it to be very distinct, as follows :]

Somewhat tufted. Culm slender, 2 feet high, geniculate, ascending, decumbent at the base, the top nodding (at least in flower), trigonal, often compressed, the narrowest side concave, smooth (or very minutely roughened only just below the joints). Leaves very long and narrow, the radical ones often reaching the panicle, the uppermost usually overtopping it ; sheaths naked ; ligule with long,

* I find in one of two specimens just sent me, that there is a branch from each joint! with the spikes mostly wholly included in the sheaths.

silky fringes. Spikelets racemose-panicled, about ten in number, and each about 5-flowered. Florets with a very conspicuous tuft of silky hairs at the base. Outer palea with rather numerous long hairs on its surface, about half the length of its awn, its teeth long and slender and awn-like; awn setaceous, slightly bent sideways, or often erect, pale at the twisted base, not twisted towards the apex. Branches of the panicle about five in number, the lowest one usually deflexed in fruit, the second one widely spreading, the rest erect.

Found growing abundantly, side by side with *D. spicata*, in open places in woods, near Little Falls, New York, in July, 1868, and August, 1869. It has also been found in Pennsylvania (Porter), and New England (H. G. Jesup).

D. spicata, Beauv.—Differs from *D. Alleni* in its much smaller size, simple culms, and in the branches of the panicle not subtended by bracts; from *D. compressa* in its straight and erect culms, and much shorter leaves; from both in its usually (not always!) terete culms; more or less hairy and at length convolute leaves with the ligule shorter fringed; in its spiked-panicle with the branches all erect-appressed in fruit; in the much shorter and fewer hairs at the base of the flower and usually on the back of the outer palea; in the outer palea being furnished with a much shorter and stouter awn, which is strongly bent to one side, dark colored at the strongly twisted base, more or less twisted to the apex, and rather more coarsely and distinctly scabrous; the teeth of the outer palea are also shorter, often very short and obtuse.

D. sericea, Nutt.—Is readily distinguished from all the preceding by its much larger glumes and much more hairy flowers. In general habit it resembles *D. spicata* very much, but, besides the above-mentioned characters, it is more robust, the leaves are more hairy, and the awn and teeth of the lower palea are much longer.

C. F. AUSTIN.

25. Popular Science.—It is a good sign that publishers are seeking to feed the growing appetite for scientific knowledge, but it is a great mistake to publish books professing to impart information, unless the writer or translator has some knowledge to impart. A friend sends us some criticisms, a few (at least) of which we think it proper to print in the BULLETIN, as the book to which they refer was introduced by it into good company.

"*Wonders of Vegetation, translated by Schele De Vere*," noticed in the last number of the BULLETIN among the new books belonging to the Herbarium Library, seems to be a work rather out of place where it is, and, perhaps, better adapted to the Zodiacal botany of the agricultural department, or for the private libraries of the extra members legislated last year into the Club. It certainly does, however, recount remarkable wonders of vegetation, e. g., p. 123: "It is here, [Tanjourra] especially, that the *Asclepias gigantea* is found growing; a prickly acacia covered with a number of exuberant lianes." Pp. 243, 244: "*Vallisneria spiralis*," * * * "the marvellous pheno-